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Book Reviews.

Nippur, or Explorations and Adventures on the Euphrates. The Narrative of the University of Pennsylvania Expedition to Babylonia in the years 1888-1890. By JOHN PUNNETT PETERS, PH.D., SC.D., D.D., Director of the Expedition. With illustrations and maps. Vol. I. First Campaign. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons; the Knickerbocker Press, 1897. Pp. xv+375.

Dr. Peters' book contains chapters on the following subjects: I, Organizing the Expedition (pp. 1-18); II, Obtaining an Iradé (pp. 19-43); III, Impressions of Constantinople (pp. 44-67); IV, The Discovery of Tiphseh (pp. 68-99); V, The City of Zenobia (pp. 100-121); VI, Deir to 'Anah (pp. 122-151); VII, A City of Pitch (pp. 152-164); VIII, Hit to Baghdad (pp. 165-190); IX, Baghdad and Babylon (pp. 191-219); X, Nippur at Last (pp. 220-241); XI, The First Campaign (pp. 242-278); XIII, The Catastrophe (pp. 279-294). Appendices: A, Subscription Paper of the Babylonian Exploration Fund (pp. 295-297); B, First Application for Permission to Excavate (pp. 298-300); C, Iradé Granting Permission to Excavate (pp. 301-302); D, Translation of Turkish Law on Archæological Excavations (pp. 303-309); E, The Geography of the Euphrates (310-317); F, Wolfe Expedition to Babylonia, being a portion of the diary of William Hayes Ward. Director of the Wolfe Expedition (1884-5) (pp. 318-375).

This book will be welcomed by all oriental students and especially by Assyriologists. It is a pleasing, well-written narrative of adventures, very much after the style of Lady Anne Blunt's *The Bedawin of the Euphrates*. It is adapted to the layman rather than to the scholar. There are, however, mistakes of omission and commission. Among the former the following may be noted: (1) The omission of the bibliography of the subject; *cf.* Hilprecht's *The Babylonian Expedition*, etc., Vol. I, Part 1, p. 45; (2) the omission of a short chapter or appendix on the *Nahr-el-Kelb*, by Hilprecht; (3) the omission of appendices on *Zinjerli*, *Marash*, *Carchemish*, *Jebel Siman*, etc. The sweeping statement (p. 37): "The result of their (Haynes, Field, and

Harper) two and a half months in northern Syria was nothing" is of a piece with several other egotistical and incorrect statements. (4) The omission to give a minute account of each day's journey down the Euphrates; *cf.* the diary of Dr. Ward and my *Down the Euphrates Valley*.¹ (5) The omission of descriptions of the Joseph Shemtob and Khabaza collections of antiquities; *cf. Hebraica*, Vol. V, pp. 74-76; Vol. VI, pp. 59, 60. (6) The omission of a description of the finds at Nippur; *cf.* Hilprecht, *The Babylonian Expedition*, etc. These are only a few of the important omissions. Scholars would certainly be more interested in such topics than in a long *excursus* on Constantinople.

Dr. Peters has entered into too many details. One doubts the advisability of informing the world of (1) the opposition developed in Philadelphia and Baltimore before the complete organization of the expedition; (2) how the guns were smuggled into Iskanderoon; (3) that a member of the expedition wished to resign in Aleppo—there were two, in fact, and their reasons, which were good, are not given; (4) of his inability to get on with the other members, etc.

Dr. Peters belittles the results of the first year in order to gain more credit for himself during the second. Some of the statements on p. 288 are absolutely incorrect, and they will be noticed at length in the October number of the *American Journal of Semitic Languages*. It would have been better for Dr. Peters to have omitted a great number of these impersonal and personal details. He has set the pace, and it would not be surprising if other members of the expedition told their stories also. We await with interest the second volume by Haynes and Hilprecht.

ROBERT FRANCIS HARPER.

Bible Handbooks for Young People. IV. THE PROPHETICAL BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT. By JOHN B. GOUGH PIDGE, D.D. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society, 1897. 128 pp., 16mo. \$0.50.

This little work, by the author of a valuable commentary on Philippians, has thirty-eight pages upon the office, influence, authorship, and interpretation of the prophets, and eighty-four pages upon matters of introduction to the prophetic writings of our canon.

Of the brief but good picture of the function and influence of the Hebrew prophets exception may be taken to some details, but none to

¹ *Old and New Testament Student*, X, 55-57; 118-119; 367, 368; XIV, 160-165; 213-217; XV, 12-16; *BIBLICAL WORLD*, I, 57-62.